

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7266

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UNCLAS MOSCOW 2139

USDOC FOR BEWT/ABRAHAMSON

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BEXP, UR, US

SUBJ: POSSIBLE SOVIET NATIONAL EXHIBIT IN UNITED

STATES - 1977

1. EMBASSY NOTES THAT FEBRUARY 11 TASS TICKER ITEM ON PRESS CONFERENCE BY USSR CHAMER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY VICE PRESIDENT PITOVTRANOV INCLUDED STATEMENT THAT SOVIET NATIONAL EXHIBITION "IS TO BE PLANNED IN THE UNITED STATE FOR 1977." COMMERCIAL OFFICE STAFF WAS UNABLE TO ATTEND PITOVTRANOV PRESS CONFERENCE BECAUSE ANNOUNCEMENT BY MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS PRESS DEPARTMENT WAS RECEIVED AFTER CONFERENCE WAS HELD.

2. FOLLOWING TASS ANNOUNCEMENT, COMMOFF RAISED SUBJECT WITH CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY OFFICIAL (AKUPOV), WHO CONFIRMED THAT SOVIETS WISHED CONDUCT NATIONAL EXHIBITION IN U.S. DURING 1977. THIS EXHIBITION, HE SAID, WOULD BE OUTSIDE FRAMEWORK OF US-SOVIET EXCHANGES AGREEMENT AND WOULD NOT BE EXCLUSIVE RESPONSIBILITY OF CHAMBER. AKUPOV ADVISED THAT "SOME TIME AGO" SOVIET EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON AND SOVIET TRADE REPRESENTATION WERE INSTRUCTED TO RAISE PROPOSED EXHIBITION WITH DEPARTMENT OF STATE. IN ADDITION TO SEEKING GENERAL U.S. APPROVAL OF SOVIET PLANS, SOVIET EMBASSY AND TRADE REPRESENTATION WERE INSTRUCTED TO DISCUSS SUBJECTS SUCH AS

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DATES, PLACE ETC.

3. EMBASSY WOULD BE INTERESTED IN KNOWING WHETHER SOVIETS
HAVE IN FACT RAISED PROPOSED EXHIBITION WITH DEPARTMENT.

STOESSEL

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NNN

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